

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT VIENNA 5381 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USDOEHQ WASHDC
USDOEHQ GERMANTOWN USUN CAPE TOWN PRETORIA DATED JUN 13:

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, IAEA, SF

SUBJECT: JUNE MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
DESIGNATION ISSUE

REFS: (A) VIENNA 5278, (B) VIENNA 5088, (C) STATE 140152

SUMMARY: AS REPORTED REF A, AS RESULT OF ROLL-CALL VOTE
CALLED BY US REP, IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS DESIGNATED
EGYPT TO 1978-79 BOARD AS "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBER FOR
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AFRICA BY VOTE OF 20 TO 9 (US) WITH THREE ABSTENTIONS
AND TWO ABSENTEES. DISCUSSION WAS RESTRAINED, THOUGH
BROADLY PARTICIPATED IN BY BOARD MEMBERS. END SUMMARY.

1. DISCUSSION OF THIS AGENDA ITEM FOLLOWED CLEAN-CUT
SCENARIO. CHAIRMAN, AS PREDICTED, READ OFF NAMES OF
TWELVE STATES, INCLUDING EGYPT (NIGER WAS APPARENTLY

PERSUADED NOT TO ROCK THE BOAT) WHICH HE GATHERED BOARD MEMBERS "WITH CERTAIN RESERVATIONS" WISHED TO DESIGNATE TO 1978-79 BOARD. I INTERVENED WITH STATEMENT TRANSMITTED REF C, ADDING THAT OUR POSITION REFLECTED NO LACK OF RESPECT FOR EGYPT, WITH WHICH US ENJOYED MOST CORDIAL RELATIONS. BRIEF SUPPORTING STATEMENTS WERE DELIVERED BY REPS OF CANADA, PORTUGAL AND FRG (SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF EC BOARD MEMBERS).

2. SUPPORT FOR EGYPT WAS VOICED BY REPS OF TWENTY MEMBERS, INCLUDING ALL FROM AF, EE AND LA AREAS, WITH SAME ARGUMENTS EMPLOYED AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA LAST YEAR. IN ADDITION, EGYPTIAN REP OBSERVED THAT BOARD HAD THUS FAR SHOWN "GREAT RESTRAIN" IN NOT TAKING ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA UNDER ARTICLE XIX OF STATUTE RECOMMENDING SUSPENSION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S PRIVILEGES AND RIGHTS AS AGENCY MEMBER.

3. AT CLOSE OF DISCUSSION, I CALLED FOR ROLL-CALL VOTE ON AN AMENDMENT TO CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD SUBSTITUTE SOUTH AFRICA AS "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBER FROM AFRICA, NOTING OUR CONCURRENCE WITH OTHER DESIGNATIONS PROPOSED BY CHAIRMAN. BEFORE ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, NUMBER OF REPS, MOSTLY AFRICAN, EXPRESSED REGRET AT CALL FOR VOTE ON ISSUE WHICH, THEY SAID, HAD BEEN "SETTLED" LAST YEAR. (OTHER REPS, INCLUDING THOSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHO VOTED WITH US ALSO PRIVATELY EXPRESSED THEIR REGRET THAT US HAD DECIDED TO CALL FOR VOTE). EGYPTIAN REP NOTED THAT VOTE WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS VOTE FOR OR AGAINST EGYPT AS ONLY STATE ACCEPTABLE TO REST OF AFRICAN STATES AS DESIGNEE. SENEGALESE REP, WITH BRIEF OUTBURST, LENT ONLY EMOTIONAL NOTE TO DISCUSSION.

4. OUTCOME OF VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS: IN FAVOR OF US AMENDMENT - 9 (US, UK, FRG, FRANCE, ITALY, PORTUGAL, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, BELGIUM); OPPOSED - 20 (ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ECUADOR, EGYPT, GHANA, INDIA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NIGER, NIGERIA, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, ROMANIA, SENEGAL, TUNISIA, USSR); ABSTENTIONS - 3 (AUSTRIA, JAPAN, ROK); ABSENT - 2 (IRAN, KUWAIT). DISCUSSION ENDED FOLLOWING CHAIR'S FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOTE OUTCOME AND DEFEAT OF US AMENDMENT.

5. COMMENT: MISSION WOULD BE INTERESTED TO LEARN OF ANY REACTION BY SAG TO THESE PROCEEDINGS. KIRK UNQTE VANCE

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